

Claims:

1. A mounting system for a keyboard, comprising:
  - a chassis defining a recessed portion for receiving the keyboard therein, and another portion with a plurality of buttons arranged thereat;
  - a panel detachably attached to the chassis adjacent the recessed portion, and covering said another portion; and
  - a retaining member fixed to the chassis to retain the panel in place;wherein interlocking devices are formed both at a side of the recessed portion opposing the panel and a side of the panel for engaging with opposite sides of the keyboard to thereby retain the keyboard in the recessed portion.
2. The mounting system as described in claim 1, wherein the keyboard comprises a plurality of protrusions projecting outwardly from one of said sides thereof, and the interlocking devices comprise a plurality of locating holes engagingly receiving the protrusions therein.
3. The mounting system as described in claim 2, wherein the interlocking devices further comprise a stop tab extending from said side of the panel for engaging with a peripheral lip of the keyboard formed at an opposing one of said sides thereof.
4. The mounting system as described in claim 3, wherein said another portion is another recessed portion receiving the panel therein.
5. The mounting system as described in claim 4, wherein a bar is arranged along a longitudinal side of said another recessed portion, a gap is defined in the bar, and the stop tab of the panel extends through the gap to engage with the peripheral lip of the keyboard.

6. The mounting system as described in claim 5, wherein the bar defines a plurality of apertures in a bottom thereof, and the panel comprises a plurality of ears extending from said side thereof and engaging in the apertures.
7. The mounting system as described in claim 1, wherein the panel comprises a pair of positioning tabs depending from an opposite side thereof, and the chassis defines a positioning slot in a rear portion thereof, the positioning tabs being received in the positioning slot.
8. The mounting system as described in claim 7, wherein the panel comprises a plurality of projections extending from said opposite side thereof, and the retaining member comprises a first beam defining a plurality of cavities, the projections being engagingly received in the projections.
9. The mounting system as described in claim 8, wherein the retaining member comprises a pair of latches depending from the first beam, and the chassis defining a pair of latch slots in the rear portion thereof, the latch slots engagingly receiving the latches therein.
10. The mounting system as described in claim 8, wherein the retaining member further comprises a second beam extending integrally from the first beam, the second beam being fastened to a rear outer face of the chassis.
11. A portable computer system comprising:
  - a chassis defining first and second recessed portions;
  - a keyboard received in the first recessed portion with one side thereof detachably engaged with the chassis at one side of the first recessed portion;
  - and
  - a panel retained in the second recessed portion, one side of the panel releasably engaged with an opposite side of the keyboard thereby retaining the keyboard

in the first recessed portion.

12. The portable computer system as described in claim 11, wherein the keyboard comprises a plurality of protrusions at said one side thereof, and the chassis defines a plurality of locating holes at said one side of the first recessed portion, the protrusions being received in the locating holes.
13. The portable computer system as described in claim 11, wherein a bar extends between the first and second recessed portions, a plurality of apertures is defined in a bottom of the bar, and the panel comprises a plurality of ears at said side thereof, the ears being engagingly received in the apertures.
14. The portable computer system as described in claim 13, wherein the keyboard comprises a peripheral lip at a bottom portion thereof; the bar defines a gap therein, and the panel comprises a stop tab at said one side thereof, the stop tab extending through the gap to engage with the peripheral lip.
15. The portable computer system as described in claim 11, further comprising a retaining member having a generally L-shaped cross-section defined by a first beam and a second beam.
16. The portable computer system as described in claim 15, wherein the panel comprises a plurality of projections at an opposite side thereof, and the second beam of the retaining member defines a plurality of cavities engagingly receiving the projections therein.
17. The portable computer system as described in claim 15, wherein the first beam of the retaining member is fastened to a rear outer face of the chassis.
18. A portable computer system comprising:
  - a chassis defining first and second recesses side by side arranged with each other;
  - a keyboard received in the first recess and defining opposite front and rear

sides;

means on the front side for locking to the chassis;

a panel received in the second recess, said panel defining opposite front and rear faces;

a first retention device formed on panel for retaining the panel in the second recess, and a second retention device formed on the front face for locking to the rear side of the keyboard; wherein

said keyboard can not be removed from the first recess unless the panel has been first removed from the second recess.

19. The system as described in claim 18, wherein said panel extends with most dimensions of said chassis in a longitudinal direction thereof and covers some parts of the computer system thereunder.

20. The system as described in claim 18, wherein said first retention device is located on the front face.